



Education and training of the multidisciplinary team working in neonatology

Standard in brief

A common neonatal medical training curriculum

Roehr CC, Breindahl M, van den Hoogen A, Johnston L

Statement of the standard

All doctors providing care to infants and their families receive training using a competency based curriculum and assessment framework.



For parents and family

- Parents contribute to the medical education programmes.



For neonatal unit

- Infrastructure for educational programmes is provided.
- Leadership in every neonatal unit should strive to ensure that there is a culture of teaching and learning in the unit.



For hospitals

- Appropriate policies and standards for human resources departments are in place to ensure staff recruitment focusses only on appropriately educated and trained physicians.



For professional societies

- Standards of care, including competencies at the local level are developed and regularly updated, disseminated and promoted.



For education providers

- A (post) graduate programme focused on neonatal medicine, including the following domains is provided: neonatal physiology and pathophysiology, family-centred care, clinical practice, leadership and teamwork, professional development and research.
- Core elements of training in neonatal medicine are included in educational curriculum of physicians taking care of infants.

Benefits

- Reduced mortality and morbidity
- Decreased rates of cerebral palsy and retinopathy of prematurity
- Consistency in quality of care delivery in neonatology
- Improved communication skills between medical teams and families and other members of the multi-disciplinary NICU teams
- Harmonised standards of education and training for doctors practising neonatal intensive care through a common European curriculum



For healthcare professionals

- Neonatologists are qualified in the sub-specialty as evidenced by the following criteria:
- Registered trainees have completed a period of at least three years with a formal mentor, responsible for assessing and recording the competence level of the trainee within the sub-specialty. Completion of education links the following theory and practice elements:
 - Theory modules relating to the neonate and their family within neonatology at all levels of care (Level 1-3).
 - Management of resuscitation, cardiorespiratory intensive care, thermoregulation, neurology, haematology and blood product transfusion, genetics, metabolism and endocrine disorders, pharmacology, nutrition, feeding, gastro-intestinal and hepatic disease, immunity and infection, transport of the infant (NB: List is not exclusive and may be extended to suit national standards).
 - Clinical decision-making skills, ward organisation, advanced parent counselling and communication skills on congenital anomalies and genetic disorders, family-centred developmental care and care of the well newborn infant, as well as end-of-life care.
 - A record of tuition and teaching in form of portfolio allows provision of evidence of attended educational activities.



Health service and regulators of the profession

- Common national training frameworks aligned with the relevant European Qualification Framework are available and regularly updated.



european standards of care for newborn health

Here you can access the full standard:
<https://newborn-health-standards.org/standards/standards-english/education-training/a-common-neonatal-medical-training-curriculum/>



european foundation for the care of newborn infants